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JUN 10 11



Miss Mason

Scale House

Ambleside

Westmouland

1911



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PORCHESTER TERRACE  
HYDE PARK W





three days before either date. I am in London all  
the time except 10-14<sup>th</sup> July.

TELEPHONE.  
N 212 PADDINGTON.

Yours love

Netta

102 Berkeley Road

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PORCHESTER TERRACE  
HYDE PARK

10.7.1911

My dearest:

I have come up here for a week end  
& whilst my quack is not operating I feel  
I can have that long deferred talk with you. I have  
heard nothing of your health. Is the pain in the back  
better? This nice the conference members of  
Unile Pianta is! I wish I had heard your  
opening words. I want, dear, to be one  
of your students for ever again - you see I claim  
to have been so often before & I want to put  
some questions before you. Don't hesitate to dictate  
an answer. I don't want long self written  
letters & don't hurry to answer, take your  
own time.  
As time goes on I become more & more inclined  
with the dead that life is only a preparation  
for something better, & more & more long  
for that better. You try & put the personal question

out of count, leave the reason for all this feeling  
 out. Every morning I am rather unpleasantly  
 surprised that there is another day before me  
 "I thought last night was the last." Then I get  
 up & my work & (look well I am well)  
 But the physical side is not the one I want  
 to dwell upon. It seems to me that one  
 can live in two ways: one in thinking this world  
 & this life is everything. "Let us eat & be merry for  
 to-morrow we must die" & as I am  
 inclined to do "this life is nothing for  
 to-morrow we must die". I don't find that  
 this philosophy, if one can call it such,  
 affects my way of living, but it might  
 if I had not other habits of mind & thought.  
 I have a keen sense of duty, a keen feeling  
 of using all one's powers, a desire to  
 cooperate humbly in God's work by  
 doing one's own best. But it



TELEPHONE.  
Nº 212 PADDINGTON.

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PORCHESTER TERRACE  
HYDE PARK W

effects me like this. I am positively glad  
when some one dies who is ill & ready to die.  
It shocks me to hear of people mourning.  
If I hear of some one having a mortal  
disease I cannot be sorry except for their  
pain. I feel a positive hypocrite, when  
some one tells me their dead ones are ill  
when I hear of an aviator being killed  
or a pilot dying in his path. I  
feel pleased for them not sorry. If I  
hear of any one making a failure of their  
life, I just think "had nice if he  
could die" —

And again it effects me personally when  
there is a question of pleasure for me. Oh,  
I say it doesn't matter, in a few years more  
I shall go, as long as I can be my best for



others there are such tangles as toward  
infinity. I wish I could ~~talk~~ <sup>write</sup> to you instead  
of writing. I know you could help me to  
see straight. I feel that all these pages of  
writing don't convey my meaning & worse  
you think I am mad & ill & depressed. I  
really am not. Every one who meets me thinks I  
look so well & jolly.

As to gossip. The conference programmes  
are out. To me the conference seems muddled  
& unsatisfactory but doubtless new people  
may think differently.

Miss Dyke's mother has had an operation  
of a severe kind performed by my surgeon Miss  
Adrian Blake. She has made a splendid

recovery (there I catch myself being very foxy)  
& has gone back to Eastbourne in my car.

She & my Miss Dyke are going off <sup>to</sup>  
Italy for four months in Sept. & I have



Whatsoever their hands findeth to do, do  
it with thy might; for there is no work  
no device no knowledge nor wisdom  
in the grave whether thou goest

I have just found this quoted.  
Has ~~us~~ but believe this & not believing  
this we are inclined to think the  
Sooner it is over the better. The only  
point is to deserve the other by working  
here; but when the other comes be glad.  
After the work is done why bother  
about the other.



# Parents' National Educational Union

Presidents—LORD & LADY ABERDEEN

HYDE PARK & BAYSWATER BRANCH

Hon. Organising Secretary of the  
Union and Hon. Secretary of the  
Hyde Park and Bayswater Branch

Mrs. E. L. FRANKLIN

50, PORCHESTER TERRACE  
HYDE PARK

(At Home Thursday mornings,  
or by appointment)

motherless children or in such posts where  
for some reason or other a young girl is  
not suitable. She is exactly my age - 37.  
She has a great gift for teaching, as we  
found when she had the little ~~class~~ ones  
at Miss Allen's class. Her knowledge of  
nature is good & she is a great nature-  
enthusiast. She has a fair knowledge of  
French & Latin & a good ear for music,  
& is as you know very well-read and  
cultivated. She has £30 per year of  
her own, which would help her towards  
half her fees, & I very much hope that she



i25p2pneu12

I should be most grateful for suggestions.

// Now as to the <sup>letter</sup> paper submitted to me.

There is much in it that I like immensely, but before the February meeting you must please say more about the P.R.S. question.

<sup>& schools.</sup>  
I hope you have not lost the list of schools we worked out together & will send me that back together with the names of all students who have little schools, & all the letters re suggestions which I sent you as well as those you have yourself. I very much want

to urge that point before the Committee as well as the other one. Moreover.

I prefer our original scheme of six months work before an examination, & not chapter by chapter. One must make the thing as easy to people as possible, & the other would, I fear, frighten them off too much.



i25p3pneu123.

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(At Home Thursday mornings,  
or by appointment)

You see, we have to make converts.  
I like the discussion in the branch &  
hope that will work. You remember  
that your last decision was that you  
would frame the examination papers  
& mark the answers. I myself think  
that the latter part could be done by  
someone else - for example, Miss Hestitt -  
but the questions should come from Scale  
How. Probably you have them  
already, as used by the students.

In your private letter you tell me that  
the Committee when they take up a thing



will find out ways & means. I fear that that means more or less that I do it & that they may or may not take up my suggestions. I am sorry now that we sent out fresh notices to the branches telling them that your communication would not be ready, but perhaps on the whole it is as well to postpone the <sup>discussion</sup> ~~meeting~~ until February.

I quite know that the suggesting that schools should join is a private thing of your own, but we want to push it as ~~one~~ do our other agencies & I am sure there are schools waiting for it.

Yours with love

H. J. Garver



226p1pneu12

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PORCHESTER TERRACE  
HYDE PARK W

Now as regards Wednesday evening, we had  
a dinner - Mr. Devonshire, Mr. Glover and  
Mr. Russell. We discussed his paper mostly  
then. Then after dinner came the other two  
teachers, Miss Droude & Mr. Earle, & Miss  
Allen. I definitely gave a lecture on  
our principles using your very excellent notes  
which, by the way, he has gone off with,  
and if you could send me duplicates I should  
be very grateful. He does not want to be  
troubled to return them. I am very sorry  
to trouble you about this, but I should like



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them at once if you can, as I want very much to have them. Possibly Miss Kitchen has notes of what you said; she wrote them out.

Mr. Russell also took a set of programmes. He was greatly impressed with the examination papers, as was I. It very much proved to me your case, that given proper methods of introducing children to knowledge itself the teacher, be she a little painstaking & a good woman, is of secondary importance.

I may say in passing that it was instructive to find that the only two criticisms

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that could be made with regard to programme or work were. (a) the French work of most of the children, and *entre nous* Mr. Devonshire much criticised the way in which these papers were corrected by mademoiselle (Miss Allen said it was Mlle's handwriting): she said it was Swiss French & not good French.

Margaret Powell's French was voted in no way up to the rest, and Mr. Russell remarked that the questions were surprisingly out of line with the other questions.

(b.) Both Mr. Devonshire & Mr. Glover felt that the programme of songs was not up to the standard of the other things, even for the little ones. This is instructive, as these are just



the two things that you do not do. <sup>26p4pneu12</sup>

Mr. Russell was very much struck by the excellence of the work and interested in the programme. Miss Froude & Mr. Earle

were both impressed by what I said on <sup>oral teaching</sup> ~~the use of books~~, use of books, respect for

children &c., but alas! with Mr. Russell one can do nothing ~~though~~, as he <sup>has</sup> ~~considers~~

~~that~~ an absolutely wrong idea of children, with the definite feeling that it is positively wicked to give them anything that they do not understand! Talk as I would, he

considered that I was doing wrong in letting children read Shakespeare, Scott &c., and when I mentioned that Haisatha was preeminently a baby's poem<sup>6-9</sup>, for a child of



about six, he thought that with  
"careful expurgations" it might be given to  
children of thirteen! He considered it  
extraordinarily mistaken that such a question  
should be set to children of thirteen (Margaret  
Powell) as - Distinguish between Crime & Sin.

Also, when I read Eric H — 's delightful  
answer on French History, he said it was  
so good but alas! so little worth doing.  
Why should children's murderous proclivities  
be pampered by giving them descriptions of  
such events as the Massacre of St. Bartholomew?  
and why should they be told such words as  
Huguenot & Catholic before they could possibly



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understand such differences?

He also found fault with the use in Margaret Powell's paper of some phrase she must have bodily taken from a book, namely, that they had their hearts in their work & their work in their hearts.

He has no idea of what we know so well, that quite little children will delight in the literary flavour of a passage.

Of course, he is an agnostic and as such, I fear, is unteachable. He goes on the principle that with our finite minds we should try and understand everything.

226p7pneu12

I do not think he will be long in this position, but as long as he is the school is an impossibility for me, so I only hope you will persuade Miss McGill.

The other two teachers are quite teachable & would do splendid work, particularly the man.

The examination papers seem to be ones that people did not want back, so may I keep them for the present?

Would you keep this letter so that we may discuss the points further, and they will not, of course, be as fresh in my mind.

A. Franklin.

A.D.

Kindly give card to Miss Parson  
for her aunt



AMBLESIDE,  
WESTMORLAND

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Amblside

isprema

Letter from Mr. Franklin to the Baron

from 1894—

but in present letter

1897 taking up work  
as a mission

from

~~Franklin~~

~~to the Baron~~

~~Thomley~~

~~Ball~~

~~Amblside~~

See the Baron's letter

in from photo

See especially B